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Message Text

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73
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /071 W
---------- 093268
O R 022144Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4380
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 4247

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, OAS, ES, HO
SUBJECT: GOH VIEWS ON MEDIATION

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 4129 (DTG 1605 AUGUST 76)

BEGIN SUMMARY. FONMIN GALVEZ MADE TRIPS DURING THE WEEK TO GUATEMALA, NICARAGUA AND COSTA RICA TO EXPLAIN THE GOH POSITION REGARDING MEDIATION. THE GOH PLANS TO SEND A DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON DURING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7-10 TO NEGOTIATE A MEDIATION AGREEMENT WITH EL SALVADOR IN THE PRESENCE OF AN OAS REPRESENTATIVE. THE GOH WILL PROPOSE THAT A CHIEF OF STATE OF ONE OF THE OAS MEMBER STATES BE DESIGNATED AS THE MEDIATOR OF THE DISPUTE. END SUMMARY

1. POLOFF HAD CONVERSATION WITH VICE-FONMIN POLLCARPO CALLEJAS ON SEPTEMBER 2. CALLEJAS COMMENTED THAT FONMIN GALVEZ' TRIPS TO GUATEMALA, COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA DURING THE EARLY PART OF THE WEEK HAD BEEN MADE TO THANK THOSE COUNTRIES FOR THEIR PEACEKEEPING ASSISTANCE AND TO EXPLAIN GOH VIEWS ON MEDIATION. CALLEJAS SAID THAT, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE GUATEMALANS
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SHOWED A REAL INTEREST IN HAVING THE DISPUTE RESOLVED; IN

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ADDITION, PRESIDENT SOMOZA ALSO SEEMS TO BE EXERTING STRONG EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A SETTLEMENT. HE REMARKED THAT ALL THREE COUNTRIES HAD PROMISED TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MEDIATION PROCESS TO SETTLE THE DISPUTE.

2. CALLEJAS SAID THAT A GOH DELEGATION WOULD GO TO WASHINGTON THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7-10 TO DISCUSS A MEDIATION AGREEMENT, ASSUMING A SALVADORAN DELEGATION IS PRESENT AT THAT TIME. HE COMMENTED THAT THE BASIS OF THE MEDIATION AGREEMENT WOULD BE THE PROPOSAL DEVELOPED BY EX-FONMIN BATRES OF HONDURAS AND FONMIN BORGONOVO OF EL SALVADOR IN 1974; HOWEVER, SEVERAL MODIFICATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE TO BRING THE DOCUMENT UP TO DATE. THE 1974 PROPOSAL CALLS FOR AN "INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED JURIST" TO BE THE MEDIATOR. CALLEJAS SAID THE GOH WILL PROPOSE THAT A CHIEF OF STAT FROM ONE OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE OAS BE APPOINTED TO ACT AS THE MEDIATOR. HE MENTIONED THAT THE GOH IS THINKING OF BRAZIL IN THAT ROLE SINCE IT HAS NO PENDING TERRITORIAL DISPUTES AND HAS FEW INTERESTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

3. CALLEJAS SAID THAT THE GOH WANTED SECGEN ORFILA OR HIS RRPRESENTATIVE TO SIT IN ON THE TALKS; THE OAS REPRESENTATIVE WOULD ACT AS A WITNESS AND BE AVAILABLE TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS ABOUT THE WORDING OF THE AGREEMENT. HE SAID THAT, FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SIGN A MEDIATION AGREEMENT DURING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7 AND SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE STARTED SOON AFTERWARD.

4. HE COMMENTED THAT SECGEN MAYORGA OF SIECA HAD VISITED TEGUCIGALPA ON SEPTEMBER 1 TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMUNITY TREATY. HE WAS TOLD THAT THE GOH WOULD BE READY TO START NEGOTIATIONS ON THE DRAFT WITHIN 3 MONTHS; AT THE SAME TIME, HE WAS INFORMED THAT NO FINAL TREATY COULD BE SIGNED UNTIL THE DISPUTE BETWEEN EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS IS RESOLVED. MAYORGA TOLD THE HONDURANS THAT THE GOES IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT MOVING AHEAD WITH INTEGRATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF A DETERIORATING INTERNAL ECONOMIC SITUATION.

5. BEGIN COMMENT. THE GOH LEADERSHIP IS AWARE THAT THE GOES WOULD RATHER NOT HAVE A THIRD PARTY PARTICIPATE IN TALKS
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ABOUT AN AGREEMENT ON MEDIATION. HOWEVER, THEY FEEL, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, THAT THE SALVADORANS HAVE UTILIZED PAST TALKS FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES WITHOUT COMING TO ANY FINAL AGREEMENT. THEREFORE, THE HONDURANS WANT TO HAVE AN OAS REPRESENTATIVE ON HAND SO THAT THE TALKS WILL BE CARRIED ON IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THERE IS AN INDEPENDANT WITNESS PRESENT WHO CAN TESTIFY TO THE ACTIONS OF THE TWO SIDES.
BARTCH

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